



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE

October 16, 2001

**H.R. 64**  
**Strengthening Science at the Environmental Protection Agency Act**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science on October 3, 2001*

**SUMMARY**

CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would cost about \$10 million over the next five years, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. H.R. 64 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

**ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted near the beginning of fiscal year 2002, that estimated funding will be appropriated each year, and that outlays will occur at rates for similar activities. The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 64 is shown in the following table. The cost of this legislation falls within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

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|  | By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars |      |      |      |      |
|--|--|------|------|------|------|
|  | 2002                                   | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 |

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**CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION**

|                               |   |   |   |   |   |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Estimated Authorization Level | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Estimated Outlays             | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |

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## **BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

Enacting H.R. 64 would establish two new positions at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). One position would be for the Deputy Administrator for Science and Technology, who would be responsible for coordinating and overseeing the science and technology activities of EPA and for ensuring that decisions are made using appropriate scientific research. The other position would be for the Assistant Administrator for Research and Development. Individuals for both positions would be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Based on information from EPA, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 64 would cost about \$2 million a year. This funding would cover salaries and expenses of 12 new staff positions associated with the work assigned to the new positions that would be created under the legislation. During the first year phase-in of these new staff, certain one-time costs are expected for contractor support for special studies and analyses, furniture, and computer equipment.

**PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS:** None.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

H.R. 64 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

## **ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:**

Federal Costs: Susanne S. Mehlman

Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Elyse Goldman

Impact on the Private Sector: Jean Talarico

## **ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:**

Peter H. Fontaine

Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis